

Subject: Master Plan for Water and Sewerage, 2011 Amendment

To:

Mary Kay Sigaty, Chair

Howard County Council

From:

David Grabowski, Chair

Howard County Planning Board

Date:

June 7, 2012

On May 24, 2012, the Planning Board held a public hearing on the Master Plan for Water and Sewerage, 2011 Amendment, as presented by the Department of Public Works. In accordance with State Law, every three years the County must complete a Master Plan that provides for the orderly expansion of the local public water and sewerage systems. The plan must be consistent with the County's General Plan and growth and development projections compiled by the Department of Planning and Zoning. The plan was presented to the Maryland Department of the Environment in October 2011 and received approval. In May 2012 it was presented to the Public Works Board in and received a recommendation of approval.

Main updates to the plan include: \$50-60 million Capital Improvement Budget, stretched out over several years, to improve deficiencies to the sewer system; the use of DPZ population projections through 2035 to calculate usage, concluding that capacity is in good shape; the recent upgrade to the Little Patuxent Wastewater Plant to increase gallons per day and switching to Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR), becoming the first jurisdiction in the State to do so and meet ENR levels; and for the first time performing water quality modeling and extended period simulations to show that they have no issues with the system.

The Board was in agreement that the amendment was consistent with the General Plan and recommended approval on a vote of 4-0.

cc: Dr. Calvin Ball, Councilmember
Greg Fox, Councilmember
Jen Terrasa, Councilmember
Courtney Watson, Councilmember
Jim Irvin, Director, DPW
Jeff Welty, Deputy Chief, Bureau of Utilities, DPW